

R E M A R K S

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the preceding Amendments and the following comments.

The amendments to claims 13-16 address and overcome the separate rejection applied to those claims.

The rejection of claims 1-26 "under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement" is respectfully traversed. An applicant may begin at a point where his invention begins and describe what he has made that is new, and what it replaces of the old. That which is common and well-known is as if it were written out in the application. *Webster Loom Co. v. Higgins*, 105 U.S. 580, 586 (1882).

The specification is not addressed to lawyers or even to the public generally, but to those of ordinary skill in the art. Any description that is sufficient to apprise them (in the language of the art) of the definite features of the invention, and to serve as a warning to others of that which is claimed, is sufficiently definite. *The Carnegie Steel Co. Ltd. v. The Cambria Iron Co.*, 185 U.S. 403, 437 (1902).

EP receptors are well known from an article of Narumiya et al., *Physiological Review*, Vol. 79, No. 4, pp 1193-1226 (copy herewith), 1998. Their gene structure is in particular described in page 1199 of this article in such a way as to enable a skilled man to choose suitable compounds.

In the same article antagonists and agonists of the EP receptors are also described. In particular, at page 1202, each of the prostanoid receptors is initially identified by its preferential

responsiveness to a particular type of naturally occurring prostanoid and is subsequently characterized by various synthetic prostanoid analogs synthesized in an attempt to mimic or inhibit particular prostanoid actions. The article of Kiriyama (cited in Narumiya, page 1204), used cultured cells expressing each of the eight types of mouse prostanoid receptors to examine the binding affinities of several (33) prostanoids and their analogs to each receptor by determining the inhibition constants values for the specific radioligand binding to the receptor. Moreover, several agonists and antagonists of EP receptors are disclosed on page 1205, §4, of the article of Narumiya.

Moreover, the Examiner asserts that the Applicants define a prostaglandin EP-3 receptor antagonist as “antagonist compounds, which make it possible to attenuate...”

This is true but incomplete.

- Actually, EP-3 receptors are defined by the fact that they play an important role in regulating the growth of epidermal keratinocytes (page 3 of the specification).
- EP-3 receptor antagonists, such as sulprostone, are known in the art (page 4 of the specification).
- The general definition of an agonist of an antagonist is given page 6 of the specification.
- The discovery of the Applicants has been to find that prostaglandin EP-3 receptor antagonists have a strong action on the loss of head hair.

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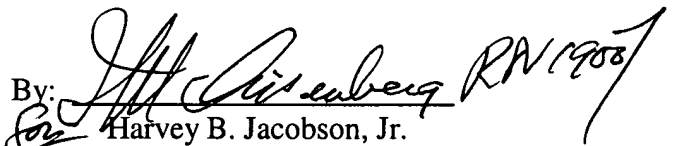
The rejection of claims 13 to 16, 18 and 19 "under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph" is also respectfully traversed. This rejection is specifically directed to enablement of "stopping the loss of hair", the text of which has been deleted from claims 13 to 16 to overcome this ground of rejection.

Applicants' disclosure is directed to those of at least ordinary skill in the art who, from published knowledge, would be fully enabled to practice Applicants' claimed invention, as called for by the instantly amended claims.

Having overcome all outstanding grounds of rejection, favorable action on the merits and allowance of all claims are now in order and are respectfully submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

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